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By:

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FILED NOV. 28, 2007

NEW JERSEY BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINED

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF

Administrative Action

Shayna Oppen-Franks, MSW, LSW:

CONSENT ORDER

This matter was opened to the State Board of Social Work Examiners ("Board") upon a complaint, received anonymously, which alleged that respondent Shayna Oppen-Franks, MSW, LSW ("respondent") was advertising her services as a social worker/therapist when she was not permitted to engage in the independent practice of clinical social work. Specifically, the complaint included a copy of respondent's website advertisement, displaying her professional social work services in the category of "Individual Therapy/Counseling, under the "company name" of Shayna Oppen-Franks, LMSW-(NY), LSW(NJ) and listing "Passaic, New Jersey" as the location of services.

In response to the Board's request for additional information, respondent, through her attorney, Gary J. Needleman, Esq., submitted a letter admitting that she obtained a single client through this advertisement, and received a fee for her services directly from that client. Respondent's attorney also advised that respondent maintains the notes she took in reference to

this single client at her home in Edison, New Jersey.

The Board having considered all of the information submitted, including the complaint and the letter submitted by respondent's counsel, finds that respondent advertised her services as an independent social worker and engaged in the independent clinical practice of social work when she did not have the required LCSW license to do so, in violation of N.J.S.A. 45:15BB-4, N.J.A.C. 13:44G-1.3 and N.J.A.C. 13:44G-9.3.

It appearing that the respondent desires to resolve this matter without further proceedings, and the Board finding the entry of the Consent Order to be in the public interest,

IT IS ON THIS DAY OF NOV 2007

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED THAT

- 1. Respondent is hereby ordered to immediately cease and desist from offering any clinical social work services as defined in N.J.A.C. 13:44G-1.2, unless functioning in the capacity as an employee and directly supervised by an individual proven to be compliant with N.J.A.C. 13:44G-8.1(a)4.
- 2. Respondent is hereby assessed a civil penalty in the amount of \$500.00 for practice beyond the authorized scope of her LSW license. Said penalty shall be paid by certified check or money order made payable to the State of New Jersey and submitted to the Kay K. McCormack, Executive Director, State Board of Social Work Examiners, PO Box 45033, New Jersey 07101, within fourteen days of the entry of the within Consent Order.
- 3. Ms. Oppen-Franks shall identify any out-of-state social work license/certification which she may also hold, whether current or expired.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS

Doreen J. Bobby, MSW, LCSW

President

I have read the within Consent Order and understand its terms. I hereby consent to its entry and to be bound by the Consent Order's terms.

Consent is given as to form, and entry of this Order

Gary J. Needeman, Esq. Attorney for Shayna Oppen-Franks, MSW, LSW

Payment Enclosed